

Law of Adulteration in Fertilizers

†3813. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to formulate a suitable law in order to take exemplary/action against those in private sector who adulterate fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 has been notified under section 3 of the Essential Commodity Act, 1955. The Order prohibits manufacture/import/sale and distribution of fertilizers which do not conform to the standards & specifications laid down in it. The order does not differentiate between private and public sector. Any person/organisation found trading in non-standard fertilizers is liable to be proceeded against as per the provision of Essential Commodities Act, 1955/Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 for administrative & punitive measures which are very stringent. In view of this, there is no proposal for formulation of any new legislation to check the quality of fertilizers exclusively for private sector.

Sale of tents received for Gujarat earthquake victims

3814. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the tents received from foreign countries as a part of relief for Gujarat earthquake victims are being openly sold in the market at a high price;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any inquiry into their finding way in the market for sale and to identify the persons involved in the racket;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) Distribution of relief on ground is the responsibility of the Government of Gujarat and no such report has been received from them.

Prices of Pulses and Oilseeds

3815. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area under cultivation of pulses and oilseeds and their production for the last three years;

(b) the quantum of imports of pulses and edible oil and their prices for the last three years;

(c) the per capita availability of indigenous pulses and edible oils for the same period; and

(d) the reasons for increase in the prices of pulses by leaps and bounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The area under cultivation of Pulses and Oilseeds and their production for the last three years are given below:

Area under cultivation of Pulses & Oilseeds during last three years

(Lakh hectare)

Year	Pulses	Oilseeds
1997-98	228.71	261.20
1998-99	235.00	262.30
1999-2000	211.89	243.80